PROCEEDINGS
of
THE TRAVANCORE SRI CHITRA STATE COUNCIL

(OFFICIAL REPORT).

SECOND COUNCIL.

FIFTH SESSION.

VOLUME XIV—NUMBER 5.

FIFTH SESSION—1939/1114.

Thursday, the 10th August 1939/25th Karkatakam 1114.

The Council met in the Legislative Chamber Hall at eleven of the clock on Thursday, the 10th August 1939, with Sachivottama Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, K. C. I. E., in the Chair.

NEW MEMBERS.

The following members took the oath and signed the rolls :

Messrs, C. Kumaradas,
K. R. Narayana Aiyar,
K. P. Padmanabha Menon, and
P. Parameswaran Pillai.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

Malaria in the Neyyattinkara taluk.

39. ***Mr. T. Krishna Pillai** (*Kalkulam and Vilavankod* cum *Neyyattinkara*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether malaria has broken out in an epidemic form in and around the Neyyattinkara taluk ;

(*b*) when it broke out ;

(*c*) the number of cases reported so far, and the number of deaths ; and

(*d*) the steps taken by Government to combat the epidemic ?

Mr. M. K. Gopala Pillai (*Director of Public Health*) :

(*a*) No. There has been recently an increase in the number of cases.

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[Mr. M. K. Gopala Pillai.]

(*b*) The increase began from Meenom 1114.

(*c*) The number of cases of fever reported by the Sanitary Inspectors in the Neyyattinkara and Nedumangad taluks during the year till the end of Mithunam, is 1,45,552. These may not all be cases of malaria. The number of deaths is 1,980 but these also are not all due to malaria.

(*d*) 1. Ten dispensaries have been opened for the treatment of malaria patients.

2. Quinine is being distributed in the malarial areas and among school children.

3. Propaganda lectures regarding the prophylactic and curative value of quinine are being given by the Public Health Department.

4. Arrangements are being made to put up temporary sheds attached to the malaria dispensaries for accommodating malaria patients as in-patients.

5. Two observation stations at Kulasekharam and Perumpazhuthur are engaged in the study and collection of data regarding the carrier species of mosquitoes.

6. Breeding of larvicidal fish in wells and tanks is being tried.

Mr. T. Krishna Pillai: May I know from the member whether the Government have taken any relief measure or whether they propose to take any?

Mr. M. K. Gopala Pillai: Sir, relief measures so far as treatment and control are concerned have already been launched. But with regard to the noon-feeding of school children in the affected areas and the additional staff required for the distribution of quinine, appropriate proposals are under the consideration of Government.

Mr. T. Krishna Pillai: May I know from the member whether he is aware that the public of the locality are distributing rice to the patients in those pakuthies?

Mr. M. K. Gopala Pillai; Certain generous public men are doing some work in that direction.

Mr. T. Krishna Pillai: In view of that, may I know whether Government will distribute atleast rice to those people without further delay?

Mr. M. K. Gopala Pillai: While Government very much appreciate this generosity, they are also considering what steps could be taken in the matter.

Mr. T. Krishna Pillai: May I know whether Government will treat the matter as urgent?

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Mr. M. K. Gopala Pillai: It has been engaging the immediate attention of the Government.

Mr. M. Govindan (*Nominated*): With reference to answer to part (c), may I know what proportion the figure 1,45,552 bears to the total population of the affected areas?

Mr. M. K. Gopala Pillai: The actual percentage has not been worked out. It is seen that a good portion of the people are suffering from malaria. Further, there is discrepancy in the number. Several cases that are reported are entered as new cases. That is an error in the hospital records.

Mr. M. Govindan: May I know why arrangements are not made for finding out genuine malaria cases? The answer given is "These may not all be cases of malaria."

Mr. M. K. Gopala Pillai: The question is not very clear.

Mr. M. Govindan: If the infection is not new in those areas, I wish to know why arrangements are not made as yet for finding out genuine cases of malaria?

Mr. M. K. Gopala Pillai: The staff in those localities is limited, and, further, medical men are necessary to diagnose all the cases of fever. Several cases come under influenza particularly during this season. During monsoon, not only malaria but cases of other fevers also occur in those places as elsewhere. Therefore cases reported as fever include all sorts of cases which show a slight rise of temperature.

Mr. M. Govindan: Will the Government be pleased to make arrangements for diagnosing cases of malaria?

Mr. M. K. Gopala Pillai: Yes, Sir.

Malaria in Mannankandom, Pooyamkutty, Marayur, etc.

40. ***Mr. E. K. Kuriyppe** (*Parur, Kunnatnad and Muvattupuzha* cum *Devicolam*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether many people die from malaria every year in places such as Mannankandom, Pooyamkutty Marayur, etc., in North Travancore; and

(*b*) whether enquiries have been made or preventive measures taken in respect of malaria in these places?

Mr. M. K. Gopala Pillai: (*a*) Government are not aware.

(*b*) No special enquiry has been made nor have any preventive measures been taken.

Mr. E. K. Kuriyppe: മലംപനി പിടിപെട്ടിട്ടുള്ള മന്നാംകണ്ടം പൂയംകുട്ടി, മറയൂർ എന്നീ സ്ഥലങ്ങളും ഡയറക്ടർ ഒരിപ്രാവശ്യമെങ്കിലും സന്ദർശിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

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